



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
St. Louis District

News Release

Release No. OD-J-08-29

Contact: Diane Hellhake

Phone Number: 573-735-4097

Fax: 573-735-2750

For Release: IMMEDIATE

Date: May 27, 2008

**20642 Highway J, Monroe City, Missouri 63456-9359 •
marktwaininfo@mvs02.usace.army.mil**

Mark Twain Lakes' Vietnam Memorial Not Forgotten

Mark Twain Lake-May 27, 2008--- "Since America's birth, we have enjoyed tremendous freedom because of the selfless servicemen and women who gave their lives to protect our nation. In the face of great danger, they did not flee, but instead chose to defend our liberty. Their sacrifice allowed future generations to prosper amid the wonderful splendors of the American way of life", to quote Governor Schwarzenegger.

Last weekend, we celebrated a tradition founded to honor soldiers killed fighting the Civil War. General John Alexander Logan started Memorial Day holiday by decorating the graves of the war dead. The first observance was May 5, 1866, then called Decoration Day.

Children camping at Indian Creek Campground continued the tradition for the Northeast Missouri Vietnam Memorial. They made paper flowers and placed them at the foot of the twelve concrete monuments etched with the names of the 45 area men killed in the war. The military men were from seven counties in Northeast Missouri: Monroe, Ralls, Shelby, Marion, Macon, Pike and Lewis. They also colored flags and hung them on the fence behind the Memorial.

The Vietnam Memorial is located at the M.W. Boudreaux Visitor Center Complex on Rt. J. It is open daily from 8:00 am to dusk in the summer. For more information phone Mark Twain Lake Project office at 573-735-4097.